



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
January 11, 2023**

PRESENT: Commissioner Becky Kent, Chair  
Commissioner Harry Critchley, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Lindell Smith  
Commissioner Lisa Blackburn  
Commissioner Yemi Akindoju  
Commissioner Gavin Giles  
Commissioner Anthony Thomas

STAFF: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer  
Martin Ward, Solicitor  
Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk  
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 12:36 p.m., and recessed at 12:39 p.m. the Board reconvened at 12:41 p.m., and recessed at 2:31 p.m. the Board reconvened at 2:48 p.m. the Board moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 4:35 p.m. and reconvened at 4:46 p.m. the Board adjourned at 4:47 p.m.*

## **1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Commissioner Smith, Chair called the meeting to order at 12:36 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

### **1.1 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.

MOVED by Commissioner Critchley, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT Commissioner Giles be nominated as Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.**

Commissioner Giles accepted the nomination for Chair.

MOVED by Commissioner Akindoju, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT Commissioner Kent be nominated as Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.**

Commissioner Kent accepted the nomination for Chair.

Lovasi-Wood called three times for further nominations; there were none.

A vote was taken by secret ballot to elect the Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners. Commissioner Kent was declared the successful nominee.

### **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Councillor Kent assumed the Chair and called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.

MOVED by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner Smith

**THAT Commissioner Critchley be nominated as Vice Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.**

Commissioner Critchley accepted the nomination for Vice Chair.

MOVED by Commissioner Akindoju, seconded by Commissioner Thomas

**THAT Commissioner Giles be nominated as Vice Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.**

Commissioner Giles declined the nomination for Vice Chair.

The Chair called three times for further nominations; there were none.

Commissioner Critchley was declared Vice Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.

### **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **2. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS – NONE**

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 14, 2022**

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Giles

**THAT the minutes of December 14, 2022 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions:

- Item 11.1 January 16, 2023 Special Meeting Location

Deletions:

- Item 8.3.1 Provincial Policing Standards Review Update – Nova Scotia Department of Justice

MOVED by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Akindoju

As provided for in section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, The Legislative Assistant requested that Item 11.1 January 16, 2023 Special Meeting Location be considered prior to item 5.

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

### **6. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

### **7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – December 14, 2022**

#### **7.1 Halifax District Royal Canadian Mounted Police Multi-Year Funding Request for Resources 2023-2026**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated December 14, 2022
- Staff presentation dated January 11, 2023

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, Inspector Michael O'Flynn, Management and Administration Services Officer, and Inspector Jeremie Landry, Operations Officer (West), Halifax District Royal Canadian Mounted Police (Halifax District RCMP) gave a presentation. Christie and Landry responded to questions of clarification from the Board. Landry confirmed a 70% increase in mental health calls over the last five years and that the suggested increase of sixteen officers would result in a cop to population ratio of one sworn RCMP officer to 904 HRM residents. Christie clarified that the funding request for the next three years will be responsive to changes in Halifax District RCMP service provision and stated that the use of specialized services to respond to mental health calls will also need to be mindful of the quick response time that may only be provided by sworn officers.

Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director Finance & Asset Management/CFO advised the Board regarding recommendations being sought from the Board at their January 16, 2023 meeting regarding the Halifax Regional Police and Halifax District RCMP business plans. Blackwood clarified for the Board that the additional Halifax District RCMP resource request is for an approximate additional \$3 million over 3 years.

The Chair clarified that at the Board's January 16, 2023 meeting the Board may endorse Halifax District RCMP request but was not able to make an alternative recommendation. With respect to Halifax Regional

Police's operating budget increase request the Board can change the dollar amount, the number and/or type of positions that the Board recommend Regional Council approve.

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

### **8.1 Correspondence – None**

### **8.2 Petitions – None**

### **8.3 Presentation – None**

## **9. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

## **10. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

### **10.1 HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE/ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE CHIEF UPDATES**

Chief Dan Kinsella, Halifax Regional Police spoke to recruitment, recent and upcoming HRP initiatives and a summary of key operational activities. Kinsella responded to questions of clarification from the Board indicating that race-based data collection work was in progress.

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, Halifax District Royal Canadian Mounted Police (Halifax District RCMP) spoke to staffing announcements, recent and upcoming Halifax District RCMP initiatives and a summary of key operational activities. Christie responded to questions of clarification from the Board indicating they would be meeting with Chief Kinsella to discuss how the collection of race based data would be analysed, stored and how it would be accessed.

### **10.2 STAFF**

#### **10.2.1 Halifax Regional Police 2023/2024 Budget Plan Update**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated January 4, 2023
- Revised staff report dated January 10, 2023

Chief Dan Kinsella, Halifax Regional Police and Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director Finance & Asset Management/CFO spoke to the topic clarifying that the staff information report was revised to reflect the 4% tax increase requested by Regional Council.

#### **10.2.2 Halifax Regional Police and Halifax District Royal Canadian Mounted Police Crime Statistics July to December, 2022**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff reports dated January 11, 2023

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, Halifax District Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Chief Dan Kinsella, Halifax Regional Police spoke to crime statistics for July to December, 2022.

#### **10.2.3 Update on the renewal of Halifax Regional Municipality's public safety strategy**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff presentation dated January 11, 2023

Amy Siciliano, Public Safety Advisor gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Board. Siciliano confirmed that a Commissioner may be able to sit on the internal advisory board that would oversee the implementation of the revised public safety strategy. Siciliano indicated that Josh Bates, the Board's Policy Advisor would be able to assist with coordination between the Board and Public Safety Office.

As set out in section 34 of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, a motion was required to extend the time of the meeting.

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Critchley

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners extend the time of the meeting past 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **10.3 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

#### **10.3.1 Commissioner Critchley – Terms of Reference for Board of Police Commissioners Policy Subcommittee**

The following was before the Board:

- Request for Consideration form from Commissioner Critchley
- Revised Request for Consideration form from Commissioner Critchley

MOVED by Commissioner Critchley, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the proposed Terms of Reference for the Board's newly created Policy Subcommittee.**

Commissioner Critchley proposed that the Term of Reference attached to the revised Request for Consideration form be added to the motion. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Commissioner Critchley, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the proposed Terms of Reference for the Board's newly created Policy Subcommittee as follows:**

**Establishes a Policy Subcommittee (the "Subcommittee") in order to have a more formalized means of furthering its governance and oversight functions vis-à-vis the HRP, including in respect of the HRP's ongoing policy refresh. The Subcommittee will have no decision-making jurisdiction. Instead, it will instead bring focus to the Board's work from the governance lens of the Board's fiduciary and strategic responsibilities.**

**The Subcommittee will be composed of no more than three (3) members of the Board, no fewer than one (1) of whom will be a Member of the Halifax Regional Council. As the Subcommittee deems necessary, the Subcommittee may consult any number of members of the Halifax Regional Police, HRM, and the public. One member of the Board shall serve as Chair of the Subcommittee.**

**All members of the Subcommittee shall be appointed by the Board and serve for a term of one (1) year.**

**The Subcommittee will meet on a monthly basis at such dates and times as are mutually agreed to by its members.**

**For greater specificity, the subject matter of the Subcommittee's work will be:**

- 1. Identifying possible priority areas for policies in need of refresh or development;**
- 2. Providing feedback to the Board on existing policy priorities identified by HRP;**

3. Providing feedback to the Board on proposed policy amendments and new draft policies;  
and
4. Together with HRP, finalizing drafts of new or amended policies for the Board's review.

**AND to conduct the Review, the Subcommittee shall be provided with such resources as are required, subject to budgetary approval by the Board; and**

**AND the Subcommittee may request the Chief of Police, members of the Board, and any member employed by the Board or the HRP to provide relevant information or documents to the Subcommittee, as necessary to further the Subcommittee's work.**

Commissioner Blackburn proposed that the Subcommittee's governance and oversight include: Halifax District Royal Canadian Mounted Police (Halifax District RCMP), the ability to consult Halifax District RCMP, and be supported by the Board's Policy Advisor. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, these amendments were accepted as friendly.

Commissioner Akindoju proposed that the subject matter of the Subcommittee's work be assigned by the Board. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Commissioner Critchley, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the proposed Terms of Reference for the Board's newly created Policy Subcommittee as follows:**

**Establishes a Policy Subcommittee (the "Subcommittee") in order to have a more formalized means of furthering its governance and oversight functions vis-à-vis the HRP and the Halifax District RCMP. The Subcommittee will have no decision-making jurisdiction. Instead, it will instead bring focus to the Board's work from the governance lens of the Board's fiduciary and strategic responsibilities.**

**The Subcommittee will be composed of no more than three (3) members of the Board, no fewer than one (1) of whom will be a Member of the Halifax Regional Council. The Subcommittee will additionally be supported by the Board's Policy Advisor. As the Subcommittee deems necessary, the Subcommittee may consult any number of members of the Halifax Regional Police, Halifax District RCMP, HRM, and the public. One member of the Board shall serve as Chair of the Subcommittee.**

**All members of the Subcommittee shall be appointed by the Board and serve for a term of one (1) year.**

**The Subcommittee will meet on a monthly basis at such dates and times as are mutually agreed to by its members.**

**For greater specificity, the subject matter of the Subcommittee's work, as assigned by the Board, will be:**

1. Identifying possible priority areas for policies in need of refresh or development;
2. Providing feedback to the Board on existing policy priorities identified by HRP;

3. Providing feedback to the Board on proposed policy amendments and new draft policies;  
and
4. Together with HRP finalize drafts of new or amended policies for the Board's review.

**AND to complete its work, the Subcommittee shall be provided with such resources as are required, subject to budgetary approval by the Board; and**

**AND the Subcommittee may request the Chief of Police, members of the Board, and any member employed by the Board or the HRP to provide relevant information or documents to the Subcommittee, as necessary to further the Subcommittee's work.**

Chief Dan Kinsella, Halifax Regional Police (HRP) spoke to an approach for the Subcommittee's review of HRP policies and that monthly meetings may not be required.

Commissioner Critchley proposed that "will meet on a monthly basis" be removed. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Commissioner Critchley, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the proposed Terms of Reference for the Board's newly created Policy Subcommittee as follows:**

**Establishes a Policy Subcommittee (the "Subcommittee") in order to have a more formalized means of furthering its governance and oversight functions vis-à-vis the HRP and the Halifax District RCMP. The Subcommittee will have no decision-making jurisdiction. Instead, it will instead bring focus to the Board's work from the governance lens of the Board's fiduciary and strategic responsibilities.**

**The Subcommittee will be composed of no more than three (3) members of the Board, no fewer than one (1) of whom will be a Member of the Halifax Regional Council. The Subcommittee will additionally be supported by the Board's Policy Advisor. As the Subcommittee deems necessary, the Subcommittee may consult any number of members of the Halifax Regional Police, Halifax District RCMP, HRM, and the public. One member of the Board shall serve as Chair of the Subcommittee.**

**All members of the Subcommittee shall be appointed by the Board and serve for a term of one (1) year.**

**The Subcommittee will meet at such dates and times as are mutually agreed to by its members.**

**For greater specificity, the subject matter of the Subcommittee's work, as assigned by the Board, will be:**

1. Identifying possible priority areas for policies in need of refresh or development;
2. Providing feedback to the Board on existing policy priorities identified by HRP;
3. Providing feedback to the Board on proposed policy amendments and new draft policies;  
and
4. Together with HRP finalize drafts of new or amended policies for the Board's review.

**AND to complete its work, the Subcommittee shall be provided with such resources as are required, subject to budgetary approval by the Board; and**

**AND the Subcommittee may request the Chief of Police, members of the Board, and any member employed by the Board or the HRP to provide relevant information or documents to the Subcommittee, as necessary to further the Subcommittee's work.**

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, Halifax District RCMP spoke to the topic regarding whether the Board and the Subcommittee could review RCMP policies.

Martin Ward, Solicitor advised that more research needed to be done regarding whether Halifax District RCMP should be included in the Subcommittee.

Ward indicated that the Subcommittee and resource people would advise HRP regarding their policies then the policies would come to the Board for review. The policies to be reviewed would be policies more specifically within the board's jurisdiction, and not policies that were purely operational in nature.

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer suggested that HRP bring forward an index of policies, and that policies should be reviewed on a regular basis. O'Toole advised that the policy indexing should provide definitions of what a policy is and what a standard operating procedure (SOP) is so that policies and SOPs could be properly identified.

Commissioner Critchley proposed that inclusion of Halifax District RCMP in the Subcommittee be removed. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Commissioner Critchley, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the proposed Terms of Reference for the Board's newly created Policy Subcommittee as follows:**

**Establishes a Policy Subcommittee (the "Subcommittee") in order to have a more formalized means of furthering its governance and oversight functions vis-à-vis the HRP. The Subcommittee will have no decision-making jurisdiction. Instead, it will instead bring focus to the Board's work from the governance lens of the Board's fiduciary and strategic responsibilities.**

**The Subcommittee will be composed of no more than three (3) members of the Board, no fewer than one (1) of whom will be a Member of the Halifax Regional Council. The Subcommittee will additionally be supported by the Board's Policy Advisor. As the Subcommittee deems necessary, the Subcommittee may consult any number of members of the Halifax Regional Police, HRM, and the public. One member of the Board shall serve as Chair of the Subcommittee.**

**All members of the Subcommittee shall be appointed by the Board and serve for a term of one (1) year.**

**The Subcommittee will meet at such dates and times as are mutually agreed to by its members.**

**For greater specificity, the subject matter of the Subcommittee's work, as assigned by the Board, will be:**

- 1. Identifying possible priority areas for policies in need of refresh or development;**
- 2. Providing feedback to the Board on existing policy priorities identified by HRP;**



3. **Providing feedback to the Board on proposed policy amendments and new draft policies; and**
4. **Together with HRP finalize drafts of new or amended policies for the Board's review.**

**AND to complete its work, the Subcommittee shall be provided with such resources as are required, subject to budgetary approval by the Board; and**

**AND the Subcommittee may request the Chief of Police, members of the Board, and any member employed by the Board or the HRP to provide relevant information or documents to the Subcommittee, as necessary to further the Subcommittee's work.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

As set out in section 34 of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, a motion was required to extend the time of the meeting.

MOVED by Commissioner Akindoju, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners extend the time of the meeting past 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**10.4 COMMISSIONER UPDATES – NONE**

**11. ADDED ITEMS**

**11.1 January 16, 2023 Special Meeting Location**

Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk spoke to the topic and responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Critchley, seconded by Commissioner Smith

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the change of the location for the January 16, 2023 Special Public Consultation Meeting re Halifax Regional Police Budget from Halifax Hall, 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax to the HEMDCC Meeting Space, Main Floor Alderney Landing, 60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION – NONE**

**13. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)**

**13.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – December 14, 2022**

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of December 14, 2022 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners convene to In Camera (In Private) to discuss Item 13.2 SECURITY MATTER and Item 13.3 PERSONNEL CONDUCT MATTER.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**13.2 SECURITY MATTER – Private and Confidential**

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioners Giles

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners adopt the direction provided In Camera (In Private).**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**13.3 PERSONNEL CONDUCT MATTER - Private and Confidential**

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private).

**14. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE**

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – January 16, 2023 special meeting re public consultation for Halifax Regional Police Budget, next regular meeting on February 6, 2023**

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Andrea Lovasi-Wood  
Legislative Assistant